

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
SOUTHERN DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

MIKAL C. WATTS, et al.

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CRIMINAL NO. 1:15CR65LG-RHW

**AGREED MOTION TO PERMIT LOGISTICAL ACCOMMODATIONS  
FOR TRIAL TEAM STAFFS**

The parties file this agreed motion to permit logistical accommodations for their trial team staffs. The U.S. Marshalls have informed movants that they require an order from this Court to permit the following:

1. laptops and cell phones;
2. Wi-Fi or VPN capability to enable database access;
3. A printer in the courthouse, to permit printing of documents needed;
4. Bottled water; and
5. Dietary snacks for one support staff member who is diabetic.

**I. LAPTOPS & WI-FI/VPN ACCESS TO INTERNET TO RETRIEVE  
DATABASED DOCUMENTS AND A PRINTER TO PRESENT THEM**

This is a case involving several terabytes of documentation, and potentially several hundred witnesses. Permitting defendants, defense counsel, and members of the parties' trial team staffs to enter the courthouse and the courtroom with laptops and Wi-Fi or VPN capability to enable their access to documents stored on databases is essential to the efficient conduct of this trial, and permitting the parties to bring a printer into the courthouse will enable them to print documents needed on a short-term basis.

**II. PERMITTING CELL PHONES WILL FACILITATE THE EFFICIENT FLOW OF AVAILABLE WITNESSES**

The current policy is to permit defense counsel to enter the courthouse with cell phones, but not others. Permitting defendants and members of the parties' trial team staffs to enter the courthouse and the courtroom with cell phones will assist the parties to ensure the continuous flow of available witnesses, rather than having them leave the courthouse to call upcoming witnesses.

**III. BOTTLED WATER**

This trial is scheduled to last 6-8 weeks. The parties respectfully request that the order permit them to bring only bottled water into the courthouse. Such an accommodation will give the litigants the ability to quench their thirst without creating a cleanliness issue. Additionally, because of a recent surgery, Attorney Ramiro Orozco requests that he be allowed access to water during trial. The parties commit to the court that bottles will not be kept on counsel table unless the court authorizes otherwise, and all empty bottled water containers will be retrieved and removed each day.

**IV. NUTS & SNACKS FOR A DIABETIC STAFF MEMBER**

One of Mikal Watts' staff members, his paralegal, is a diabetic. She respectfully requests that the Court permit her to bring into the courthouse pre-packaged snacks and jarred nuts, so that if a health need arises during court, she may properly ingest such necessary foods outside the courtroom without having to leave the court house to do so.

**V. TRIAL GRAPHICS PRESENTATION**

Several of the Defendants have retained Keith Cartwright of Courtroom Concepts, Inc. to run trial graphics presentation software in order to display documents and graphics to the jury.

The parties request that Mr. Cartwright be permitted to enter the courtroom and set up his equipment in front of the bar and adjacent to counsel table, even though he is not a lawyer.

**VI. MEMBERS OF THE TRIAL TEAMS WHO ARE NOT LAWYERS FOR WHOM THIS MOTION REQUESTS COMPUTER, WI-FI/VPN & CELL PHONE ENTRY PERMISSION**

Mikal Watts will have non-lawyers Cindy Wilson, Meredith Drukker and Oscar Quiroz assisting him during this trial. Michael McCrum, counsel for David Watts, will have non-lawyers Priscilla Torres, Teri Watts and Alicen Flores, assisting him during trial. Chip Lewis, Alicia O’Neil and Tommy Spina, counsel for Hector Eloy Guerra will have no non-lawyers assisting them during trial. Karl C. Hightower, counsel for Wynter Lee, will have no non-lawyer assisting him during trial. Luke D. Wilson, counsel for Gregory P. Warren, will have no non-lawyer assisting him during trial. John W. Weber, counsel for Thi HOUNG (“Kristy”) Le, will have non-lawyer Demetrius Drakeford assisting him during trial. Ramiro Orozco, counsel for Thi Hoang (“Abbie”) Nguyen, will have non-lawyers Kent Aldenderfer and Logan Luquette assisting him during trial. Jerry L. Rushing and Gregg Kennedy, Assistant United States Attorneys, will have no non-lawyers assisting them during trial. The parties respectfully move this Court to order the U.S. Marshal’s Service and courtroom security officers to permit those non-lawyers to bring into the courthouse their computers, Wi-Fi/VPN devices and their cell phones.

Respectfully submitted this the 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2016.

By: s/Mikal C. Watts  
Mikal C. Watts  
Texas State Bar #20981820  
WATTS GUERRA, LLP  
4 Dominion Drive, Bldg. 3, Ste. 100  
San Antonio, TX 78257  
Telephone: 210/447-0500  
Facsimile: 210/447-0501  
Email: mcwatts@wattsguerra.com

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
MIKAL C. WATTS

s/Michael McCrum

Michael W. McCrum  
Texas State Bar #13493200  
MCCRUM LAW OFFICE  
The Esplanade  
404 E. Ramsey, Ste. 102  
San Antonio TX 78216  
Telephone: 210/225-2285  
Facsimile: 210/225-7045  
Email: [michael@mccrumlegal.com](mailto:michael@mccrumlegal.com)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
DAVID WATTS

s/K.C. Hightower

Karl C. Hightower  
MS Bar #101246  
BALCH & BINGHAM, LLP  
1310 Twenty-Fifth Avenue  
P. O. Box 130 (39502)  
Gulfport, MS 39501  
Telephone: 228/214-0421  
Facsimile: 866/316-9459  
Email: [kcightower@balch.com](mailto:kcightower@balch.com)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
WYNTER LEE

s/Luke D. Wilson

Luke D. Wilson  
MS Bar #102198  
WILSON LAW, PLLC  
P. O. Box 1926  
Gulfport, MS 39502  
Telephone: 228/731-4003  
Facsimile: 228/205-4464  
Email: [luke@wilsonforthedefense.com](mailto:luke@wilsonforthedefense.com)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
GREGORY P. WARREN

s/Chip B. Lewis

Chip Brandon Lewis  
CHIP B. LEWIS LLC  
1207 S. Shepherd Dr.  
Houston, TX 77019  
Telephone: 713/523-7878  
Facsimile: 713/523-7887  
Email: [chipblewis@aol.com](mailto:chipblewis@aol.com)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
HECTOR ELOY GUERRA

s/John W. Weber, III

John William Weber, III  
MS Bar #101020  
FEDERAL PUBLIC DEFENDER  
2510 14th Street, Suite 902  
Gulfport, MS 39501  
Telephone: 228/865-1202  
Facsimile: 228/867-1907  
Email: [john\\_weber@fd.org](mailto:john_weber@fd.org)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
THI HUONG LE, a/k/a  
KRISTY LE

s/Romiro Orozco

Ramiro Orozco  
MSB #101487  
ANDERSON OROZCO, PLLC  
P. O. Box 666  
Gulfport, MS 39502  
Telephone: 228/831-0025  
Facsimile: 877/809-2390  
Email: [rorozco@msgulflaw.com](mailto:rorozco@msgulflaw.com)

ATTORNEY FOR DEFENDANT  
THI HOAUG NGUYEN, a/k/a  
ABBIE NGUYEN

s/Jerry L. Rushing

Jerry L. Rushing

MS Bar #5731

U. S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

501 East Court Street

Suite 4.430

Jackson, MS 39201

Telephone: 601/973-2821

Facsimile: 601/965-4409

Email: jerry.rushing@usdoj.gov

ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that on June 24, 2016, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of Court using the ECF system, which sent notification of such filing to all counsel of record.

s/Mikal C. Watts

Mikal C. Watts